Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* What is the international situation ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* You can ask the Hon'ble Member Mr. Mathai.

275. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether there is an idea to shift the Comptroller's Office from Trichur to Ernakulam ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The Honourable Member's attention is drawn to the answer to question No. 274.

PORTION OF KARITHALA VILLAGE ADDED TO THE ERNAKULAM MUNICIPALITY— AMENITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE LOCALITY

276. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when was that portion of Karithala which lies east of Ernakulam South Railway Station added to the Municipality ;

(*b*) how many houses are there in that stretch of land ;

(*c*) what all municipal amenities have they been provided for ;

(*d*) are they given lights ; have they scavenging service and have they other sanitary services ;

(*e*) is not that stretch of land bounded on all sides by water ;

(*f*) what provision has been made for their communication with the other parts of the town ;

(*g*) has not the one connection they had with the town been removed by the interception of the Station, etc. ;

(*h*) have there been cases of crossing the line by the people and consequent criminal charges ;

(*i*) are the houses in that area taxed as the other houses of the town ;

(*j*) what is the percentage of property-tax ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) In 1115.

(*b*) 102.

(*c*) An unmetalled road has been opened by Government from the Trippunittura road up to the centre of the inhabitable area.

(*d*) The Council has sanctioned kerosene oil lights to be put on the road.

(*e*) No; on one side it is connected to the Trippunittura road.

(*f*) Vide answer to sub-division (*c*).

(*g*) Yes; but in its place another has been provided.

(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) 30 out of the 102 houses are assessed.

(*j*) 11½ per cent of the annual value of lands and buildings.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Have the lights been put up ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* There are more lights than before.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Scavenging service ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* There is scavenging service arranged in the houses of all those who have registered for the same. Others have not applied.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* You have been collecting scavenging fee, and where is the necessity for an application ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That seems to be the practice.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* There is no such rule.

MATTANCHERI FORESHORE IMPROVEMENT

277. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to inform—

(*a*) details of the scheme they had designed to improve the Mattancheri Foreshore ;

(*b*) the cost of acquiring the area that they intended to acquire in the scheme ;

(*c*) the cost of acquiring the area with the buildings thereon now standing between the Women and Children Hospital on the south, the backwaters on the east, the Mattancheri Bazaar Road on the West and the British Harbour Workshop on the north ;

(*d*) will Government be pleased to state the present cost of building materials and the cost of the same in the month of December 1940 ;

(*e*) will Government be pleased to state the present annual rental value of the buildings and premises standing on the area specified in question (*c*) above, as per the last assessment made by the Municipal Council of Mattancheri ?

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Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) (1) Construction of rat-proof godowns and wharfs.
(2) Reclamation of an area in front of the wharfs.
(3) Construction of roads and drains

(*b*) The cost of acquiring the land alone is not available.

(*c*) The c st of acquiring the area with buildings according to the proposed scheme is estimated at Rs. 2·76 lakhs approximately for the 1st stage of the scheme.

(*d*) The prices of the important building materials at Cochin as per the departmental schedule of rates are given below. The same rates were prevalent in December, 1940 also.

	Rs.	A.	P.		
1. Laterite stones	9	12	9	per	100 Cft.
2. Machine-made brick 1st class	22	0	0	,,	1000 No.
3. Flooring tiles 9″ sq. 1st class	31	0	0	,,	,,
4. Roofing tiles do.	30	0	0	,,	,,
5. Ridge tiles 1st class	80	0	0	,,	,,
6. Lime	12	14	10	,,	100 Cft.
7. Cement	1	14	0	,,	Cft.
8. Clean river sand	2	15	0	,,	100 Cft.
9. Timber Teak	35	0	0	,,	candy
Irul	20	0	0	,,	,,
Pullamaradu	16	0	0	,,	,,
10. Granite rubble stones	6	15	4	,,	100 Cft.
11. 1¼″ granite metal	7	5	1	,,	,,

For iron materials no definite rate can be given due to the unsteady market condition. The rates have gone up twice and thrice even more than the pre-war level.

(*e*) Rs. 55,650 for the buildings in the 1st stage area alone.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What has prevented the Government from carrying through this scheme?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The prohibitive cost. The first stage itself would cost 7½ lakhs.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government aware that it is a self-supporting scheme and that the people were prepared to find the money themselves and carry on the work. What is the objection of the Government in allowing a Town Improvement Trust in carrying out this work by floating debenture loans?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* That can be considered.

WOMEN SWEEPERS—EMPLOYMENT OF—MUNICIPALITIES, TOWN COUNCILS, ETC.

278. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of women sweepers employed by the Municipalities, Town Councils (when they existed), Panchayats and Public Health Department for sweeping public roads;

(*b*) if there are none, the reason;

(*c*) whether the Government of Travancore employs women sweepers also to sweep public roads?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) There are 25 women sweepers employed by the Mattancheri Municipality and one by the Manalur Panchayat in the Panchayat Department.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) Government have no information.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Cannot the Government give instructions to Municipalities other than Mattancheri to reserve a certain percentage of posts for employing women sweepers?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Government have not objected to the appointment of women sweepers by any of the Municipalities in the State and they expect that the lead given by the Mattancheri Municipality will be followed by others.

PERCENTAGE OF CLERKS IN THE GRADE OF Rs. 40—60 AND ABOVE—CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT

279. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the names of the Departments in which the clerks in the grade of Rs. 40—60 and above are below 35 per cent of the total number of clerks after the re-organisation and general revision of pay in 1105 M.E.;

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